

# California GARDEN

SUMMER NUMBER

Volume 38, No. 1

## The Earth

*The earth is a great round basket of green  
Where beauty blooms for aye,  
And the arching handle of argent sheen  
Is the woven milky way.*

Dr. Frank Lane

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# Reynard Way Camellia Gardens

We specialize in Camellias, which means that we carry only the varieties which we have tried and found will perform successfully in this area. Some Camellias may be superb in color, form, and habit of plant but if they are not at their best in San Diego County, we know it. Through time we have selected OUR choice for YOU.

Yes, some specimens will cost \$50, but we have smaller plants at \$2.

*You may be amazed that so many Cymbidium plants are being grown right here in San Diego. We have the largest collection of plants in this area. You can buy any size. They range from those which are ready and sure to bloom to those which are smaller, then you can have the fun of growing them for a year or two before they bloom. Even as little as \$5 will buy a sprouted back bulb though our choicest large plants are worth \$250.*

We want you to drop in for information. Don't feel that you must buy. We are anxious to make San Diego a true Flower City. If I can interest you, you can interest your friends. Bring them in so that we may become acquainted.

**2661 Reynard Way, Just off of State St.**

# California Garden

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Meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Theosophical Society, 4th at Olive. 7:30 P. M.

## *The Sweet Peas' Hey-Day Is May-Day, In December*

Every one who raises sweet peas naturally has his favorite method of planting and caring for them in order to produce the very best blooms. This is our method.

If we want to have blooms by Christmas, we plant the seeds early in September. If we want them later in the spring we wait until the last of October to plant. We always use winter Spencer type pea of the best quality.

The growing of sweet peas in our garden is quite a ceremony, therefore we take great pains in the preparation of the soil and select the best location for the flowers to grow in. They require full sun and we have found an unshaded southern exposure is the best place for them.

A stand of sweet peas 12 feet long is sufficient for a small garden and will furnish blooms in abundance. When we have selected the site, we dig a trench 16 to 18 inches deep and a foot wide, and fill the trench to within 6 inches of the top with the followings materials.

1. A layer of last year's dried sweet pea vine which has been cut up in small pieces. This furnishes drainage.
2. A layer of well-rotted manure.
3. A sprinkling of sand.
4. A thick layer of compost.
5. A thin layer of peat moss.
6. Good garden soil to within 6 inches of the top of the trench.

These materials are dampened but not soaked, and allowed to stand for about ten days. During this time the trench is worked over many times and is kept damp.

Just before planting the seed, the trench is well watered. We place the seeds in a dish of tepid water and allow them to remain about an hour. This softens the outer skin and allows the sprout to break through more quickly.

The seeds are planted a half inch deep and an inch apart. We press the soil firmly around them. The bed is kept fairly damp all the time. As the plants make their appearance, we cover them over lightly with soil and continue this procedure until they are above the level of the top of the trench. In other words, they have grown 6 inches.

Thus the plants become well established. They need to have their roots deep in order for the vines to become strong. We make ditches in front and back of the vines because all watering is done by the irrigation method. The soil must never be allowed to dry out.

Our sweet peas climb a large mesh chicken fence about 7 feet tall. When blooming starts, we put a small amount of ammonium sulphate in the bottom of the irrigation ditch and wet it down. This is done twice during the blooming season.

The soil around the vines is kept

friable with peat moss and compost, and frequent hoeing. We try to keep the peas well picked, not allowing any of them to go to seed. Thus they bloom for a long season.

"We think that one of the reasons we have had beautiful blooms with long, strong stems, bearing four or five flowers, is our compost. We could not garden without our compost hole. Its contents are a treasure for keeping the soil well mulched and rich with humus. Every gardener should make his own compost. It is easy to do and he will be repaid for his trouble.

ALMA AND LELA MARKS

## *General Method*

August is the early month for planting winter-flowering sweet peas. They are believed to germinate more easily in September when the ground has supposedly cooled off a little. Hence the popularity of Labor Day as a sweet pea planting date. The gardener having an extra day to acquire callouses at home has something to do with it, too.

Whatever time is chosen, some work and planning is to precede it, unless the gardener is strictly the ad lib type. Enough water should be in the bed at planting time to sprout the seeds. To accomplish this the ground will have to be watered for several days so that it can be worked down to 18 inches or so.

Then a deep trench can be opened in the row and manure and bone meal chopped in. This is food for the roots after the sweet pea vines begin to develop. For planting, earth is settled back over the fertilizer and

leveled, and then a furrow is made for the seeds. Sweet peas are planted one inch deep, but this furrow should be made several inches deep, so that burlap or muslin, or brush, can be placed over it. Then the young sprouts will be protected from birds, and also shaded from hot sun. As they grow, the furrow is filled in around them, making them root deeper. The shading device, whatever it is, should be removed gradually.

The bone meal mentioned for the trench can be used at rate of one-quarter to one-half pound per linear yard. It is good to use along with other plant foods for sweet peas but is never a quick-acting fertilizer so must be put in at planting or before. Some have found that powdered sulphur mixed into the soil around the seeds prevents blights. Using an inoculator on the seed is a good idea where it has been found that the soil is lacking in nitrogen and does a poor job of producing pea plants of any kind.

Sweet pea seeds may be planted an inch to four inches apart in their furrow. Push enough soil down on them to cover them one inch deep. Firm it but don't pack it, and sprinkling over it is considered a high crime because this cakes the surface. Enough water should have been soaked into the bed previously to bring up the seeds. Some growers run water down the seed furrow several times, in addition, before the seeds are put in.

An extra snail guard should be run around the hopeful young sweet pea row from the favorite bait-box. After all, who are you that snails should ignore your sweet peas.

#### *Commercial Grower Tips*

Shift sweet pea rows two feet each year. They should not grow in the same soil two years in succession.

Spread rabbit or other fertilizer on the soil three months before planting, turning it over often during this time.

For a thick stand, drop seed in little bunches a short distance apart. Don't do this, however, unless the soil is extra rich.

Pick out a good spray for the sweet pea troubles you are heir to, and begin using it lightly before those troubles start.

Work in fish meal when buds start developing, as it makes long stems.

#### *Happy-Go-Lucky System*

Dig a trench. Dump some fertilizer in it. Work this around for awhile. When you are ready to plant the seeds, "sling a slew" of them down the row. Cover and carry on in character. Get the neighbors to help you pick 'em.

#### *Extra Fancy Potting*

Pot-started sweet peas are reputed to be extra special performers when set out in a well prepared trench. The method is not a common one and therefore interesting to try for anyone with the urge to do something different.

Four inch pots are used and they must be clean with no old lumps to catch at the root balls and break them when the sweet peas are set out. Soil mixture is one-third each of leaf mold, loam and sand. The pots are grouped some where in the open air and given protection from birds, strips of muslin, for instance. One seed is put in a pot and covered half to an inch deep.

When the plants are two inches high, the gardener has to take a firm grip on himself and pinch those plants back to practically nothing at all.

This pinching back gives the young plants a strong root growth and causes them to "stool" or branch. This growth takes about six weeks after pinching back. Then the plants are ready to set out in the trench one (note well) foot apart.

The trench properly prepared is two feet deep layered as follows: animal fertilizer, soil, blood and bone, soil. An ounce of sulphur to the square foot is scattered over the surface layer of soil and raked in lightly as a mildew preventive.

It is said that sweet peas grown in this manner make unbelievable growth, extraordinary stems and magnificent flowers. The method is more worth trying for choice varieties. The gardener must not neglect to soak the trench deeply several times before the potted plants are set out. To get them out of the pots, first water. Then press the soil all around the edge with the thumbs, then place the fingers to "catch" and invert, tapping the rim of the pot on a table-like edge.

ADA PERRY

—from San Diego Union

## *Plant in July*

Seeds of these flowers can be sown in well watered beds of good soil: African marigold, early cosmos, French marigold, nasturtium, winter flowering sweet peas, zinnias.

If you are making seed flats, sow: cineraria, fairy primulas, pansies, verbenas, columbine, Canterbury bells, Shasta daisies and foxglove. You have to be good to make a success of these.

Set out plants of any of these flowers if you do not wish to sow their seed.

The following vegetables can be sown: beans, beets, chard, leaf lettuce radishes, quick maturing corn and cucumbers.

## *Watch Your 'Mums Now*

By CHARLES B. WINKLER

For those who, in the fall of the year are thrilled with the beauty of my choice of autumn garden queens, the 'Mum, here are a few suggestions which if followed will result in the enjoyment of her full beauty.

There are five principle types of 'Mums: the exhibition or commercial, large flowering incurve and reflex blooms seen in the florist shops; the feathery or spidery type; the pompon; the button; and the single or daisy type. There are two other varieties not so largely grown in Southern California. These are the garden or hardy, and the cascades. All these chrysanthemums come in a wide range of color except a true blue.

#### *Fertilizing*

During the growing time of the plants, from July to September, apply a balanced commercial fertilizer or a light top dressing of chicken manure once every three or four weeks. Take care not to bank the chicken manure around the stems of the plants.

The best time to apply the fertilizer is after watering or when the soil is moist. As to cultivation, do this only very lightly, just enough to keep the bed free of weeds. Stop all fertilizing at the very first sign of color showing in the buds. Application after this stage will blast the buds.

#### *Watering*

The proper amount of watering depends on the type of soil in the bed.



If it is fairly heavy and slow to drain off, then a thorough soaking twice a week is enough; but if it is rather loose, then a good soaking every other day is required. As a rule the plants will tell you if they are getting the right amount of water. When the leaves look wilted, more water is required. When they take on a yellow color, no harm is done, but stop watering until they resume their fresh green again. Then water a bit more moderately than before.

In watering, there is one very essential rule to follow, namely never under any conditions water the plants over head late in the afternoon or evening!

This has a tendency to turn the lower leaves brown and dry, and also to invite rust on the under side of all the leaves and mildew on the upper side.

A good way is to soak the ground only, early enough in the afternoon so the plants can be dried off and the water saturated into the soil before sundown. About once a week, until the buds show color, you can wash the plants off with a fine, light spray. It helps keep the red spider and aphids in check and cleans the foliage of dust and dirt. Do it, however, very early in the afternoon.

#### *Stopping*

When the plants have grown 6 to 8 inches tall, pinch off about 1 inch of the tip of the plant, then select 3 of the best shoots that will sprout from where the leaf joins the stem. These will be the shoots bearing your blooms. Pinch out all the rest to come. This applies only to the exhibition or commercial large flowering types, and the feathery or spidery types.

For the large pompons, allow 5 or 6 shoots, and for the button and single types allow 8 or 10 shoots. The buttons and singles can again be pinched back about the middle of July, to make more compact and bushy plants with plenty of blooms for cutting.

#### *Disbudding for Size*

The three shoots you have selected on the plants of your large flowering types (exhibition or commercial, feathery and spidery) will start sending out side laterals. These must all be removed as close to the stems as

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First Column)

## *Garden Pest Control Brought Up To Date*

By T. S. BALLANTYNE

*Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, County Department of Agriculture*

Warm weather means good growing weather for plants and also means favorable conditions for the appearance and rapid increase of pests in the flower garden. Insects and diseases may cause severe plant injury in a very short period of time and materials for control should be applied as soon as the pest appears.

In dealing with any pest control problem, there are a few basic principles in addition to the actual use of an insecticide or fungicide which should always be kept in mind.

(1) Always keep plants growing vigorously. A weak growing plant is hardly worth the cost of spray materials and time necessary to apply them. Plants should be well fertilized and carefully watered. Occasionally wash the dust off the foliage so that the plant can breathe. While washing the plant, you may also knock off many insects. The sprinkling of plants should be done early in the day so the foliage will dry promptly. Where plant foliage remains moist for several hours or where plants are grown in shadowed enclosures and air circulation is poor, mildew and other fungous diseases are very apt to be severe. Also of importance is the removal of declining plants and of any weeds which might be in the garden, as pests often propagate in such places.

(2) It is very important to thoroughly spray or dust plants, covering the trunk, branches, and both sides of the leaves. Dusts should not be applied when the wind is blowing. Many failures in pest control are due to improper coverage.

(3) Know what materials to use. In the small garden, most people will desire to use a multi-purpose spray or dust which is fairly effective against many insects and some diseases. Insecticide materials should not be combined by the individual unless he is sure of the compatibility of the materials to be combined. In many cases when materials are mixed they com-

bine chemically and lose their effectiveness and in some combinations plant injury may actually result.

#### *Chewers and DDT*

For control of chewing insects, poison the leaves of plants with lead arsenate, calcium arsenate, or cryolite (sodium fluoaluminate), either as a dust or spray. As a spray, these materials may be used at the rate of 1 oz. to 2 gallons of water. DDT has not proved successful in the control of all chewing pests, as it is quite selective. However, it is effective against Diabrotica beetle, Fullers rose weevil, Bristly rose slug, California oak moth, and others. In many cases where DDT is used, mite populations inimite control, such as oil or hexaethyl-tetraphosphate should be combined with the DDT.

For control of snails, sowbugs, or cutworms, prepared baits may be used, or a satisfactory snail bait may be mixed, using 1 lb. calcium arsenate to 16 lbs. of coarse red bran. A very good bait for control of sowbugs or pillbugs may be made by mixing 5 lbs. of calcium arsenate with 2 lbs. of white flour. These baits are most effective when spread in the evening. Sprinkle the ground lightly with water before spreading bait.

#### *Others and DDT*

For control of sucking insects, such as scale and mites, use an oil spray. For aphids, use pyrethrum or nicotine sulphate. A new material known as hexaethyl-tetraphosphate also shows much promise in the control of aphids. An objection to this material is that it breaks down rapidly and requires prompt use. Dusts of this material should be applied within ten days of mixing and sprays must be applied within a half hour from the time of mixing with water.

Another sucking insect, thrips, may be controlled by using DDT. This material has been outstanding in control of thrips and is recommended for

(Continued on Page 8,  
Second Column)

## The Flower Show Parade

### CHULA VISTA

During the War Chula Vista abandoned flower shows, but this year on April 26-27 the annual display was resumed in the Woman's Club House. The program, an attractive booklet, contained not only the premium list but legends of the rose, iris, geranium, poppy, and camellia.

The visitor at the show entered the patio first. In the center he saw the fish pond surrounded by potted plants. Around the sides were tables of flower arrangements,—stock, snapdragon, petunia, pansy, daffodil, bird of paradise, and other varieties. Some of the tables were decorated by the school children and some by the various churches. A birdhouse surmounting a six foot pole and revealed a lot of painstaking labor.

From the patio the visitor passed into the auditorium of the Club House. On the stage were the shadow boxes and the miniatures near by. In front of the stage, on a table about seven feet long by five wide, was a miniature Spanish estate,—a blue, flat roofed house surrounded by a white picket fence, a walk from the arched gateway to the front door with an urn on each side, in the house no end of furniture, outside a garage with an automobile parked in front, the back yard a vegetable garden arranged in an attractive design, an outdoor oven, dog house with bull dog and two pups, and other interesting details too numerous to mention. This was the outstanding display of the show.

Looking down the middle of the hall, the visitor viewed the roses placed on several rows of tables covered with black cloth and extending almost the length of the room,—a pleasant vista, but closer examination revealed the individual blooms lacking in quality this year. Several specimens of Peace, the new rose, were present. Though the examples were not especially fine, the rose seems well worth growing.

Along the west wall were arrangements of roses and other flowers in vases, baskets, and bowls, and displays of orchid iris,—both exhibits of good quality. Across the large

window at the back were flower decorated shelves and window arrangements, near by the dining table displays. Along the east wall were collections and baskets of sweet peas in excellent quality.

The visitor passed from here into the back yard where were the professional displays—a fine assortment of potted plants and garden furniture.

DR. FRANK LANE

### ONEIRA CLUB

Oneira's flower show this year was held as usual in our Club House. The date was April 30 and 248 entries were displayed.

These flower shows are sponsored by our Club garden department. Attempted first in 1923, the shows have expanded to such a gratifying extent that for the past several years our Club House has been taxed for space to display the many exhibits.

In the beginning, our special aim was to encourage newcomers in our community to garden in our adobe soil. And now when we see the many beautiful gardens in Normal Heights, we like to feel that our project was not in vain.

Through the years Mrs. Mary Greer, president of the San Diego Floral Association, has given us much support and encouragement; and she and other members of the Association have always acted as our judges.

Our exhibits are divided into 45 classes, of which 17 are roses. We use blue, red and white cards for our "ribbons" and give a sweepstake prize to the one with the most winning entries, a prize for the best rose in the show, and smaller prizes for all other firsts.

It has been very interesting to watch the changing enthusiasms of our exhibitors. The geraniums and pelargoniums have really come into their own and in recent years our exhibits of miniatures and decorative arrangements have increased.

The flower show is not the only activity of the garden department. We decorate our Club House for all meetings, give large bouquets for door prizes, and assist with the decorations at County and State conventions for the Federation of Women's Clubs.

Flowers and plants are kept available for sale, and we enjoy a meeting each month of our department group of 35 members where many phases of flower and plant culture are discussed. Usually we are able to make a cash contribution to building fund from our department activities.

Now we are already planning a bigger and better flower show for 1948.

MRS. FLOYD SMITH

### RANCHO SANTA FE

At Rancho Santa Fe, after seven long years without a local Spring Flower Show, the Garden Club's recent April exhibit will be remembered as a very special event since Mr. and Mrs. John E. Howe opened to Flower Show visitors the famous old gardens which surround the historic Juan Osuna ranch house, formerly owned by Bing Crosby. Ancient shade trees, great old vines laden with fragrant bloom, the lovely swimming pool, and spacious lawns outlined by colorful annuals, delighted everyone who walked through Mrs. Howe's charming living-room into this pleasant garden.

At the Garden Clubhouse the members had arranged a competitive exhibit to demonstrate the use of flower arrangements in relation to groups of furniture with proper background and, or, accessories. Staged above these groups was a new class of triangular arrangements of green in white containers, a class designed for the purpose of forming a decorative frieze around the walls of the clubroom above the colorful units where the flowers were displayed. The club's shadow boxes, shown with special lighting, and so well proportioned for the use of certain old-fashioned vases which the members like to use, held unusually beautiful arrangements, many of which had been entered by new members who were taking part in a Rancho Flower Show for the first time.

Over at the schoolhouse, made attractive by professional landscaping and outdoor furniture, the specimen rose section was arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Brune, also "first-timers" in the local show. It was an Etoile de Holland from the Brune Garden which won first place as the Best Rose in the show.

It was indeed the unfailing co-operation of the club's many new members, as well as the efforts of the pioneer members, which "saved the show" when the president, Mrs. Randal MacDonald was suddenly called East at a critical stage of show preparation.

RUTH R. NELSON

## S. D. FLORAL ASSOCIATION

The flower show building in Balboa Park was still not available this spring to the San Diego Floral Association for the huge displays of pre-war years. But this again was compensated for by dropping into a walled garden from a busy street. The Julius Wangenheim garden at 128 West Juniper once more opened its doors and made room for the Association's iris and geranium displays within the folds of its green cloak.

Visitors entered at will and gazed at displays surrounded by the trees, shrubbery and living turf of a real garden. The iris show in the brown timbered summer house looked out over on the fat foliage and weedless earth of an iris bed.

Certainly in the Wangenheim gardens Saturday and Sunday, May 4th and 5th, the iris growers saw enough to give them the spiritual lift which is the definite property of this flower. The Floral Association's arrangement artists made gifts of their skill developed by years of contributing for the pleasure of show goers. Isn't there a color film fan in the Association who will record these arrangements which say so much so beautifully but are so perishable?

Two flowers can make a show, even if two swallows don't make a summer, if the two flowers are iris and geraniums.

While the large ruffled pelargoniums with their exquisite print coloring and designs, were most beautiful, a Madame Kovalesky geranium arranged with purple leafed plum gave the most outstanding impression, in one opinion, for an individual flower. The pelargoniums starred in the showiest exhibit, however.

This was the large artists' palette set up at the entrance to the garden. Its green surface was pelargonium leaves, its daubs of paint clusters of pelargonium varieties, its brushes authentic, its impression delightful

and an invitation to begin giddily to paint anything and everything. There was an additional item of equipment not often found on painters' palettes—a thicket of balloons on the under side, not blown up but holding water for the stems of the pelargonium paint daubs!

A variety of beauty seekers visited the garden during the show. What a beautiful pan, commented one. You mean a fern pan, was the reply. But, no. Mrs. Wangenheim's beautiful little Pan of the pool was the "pan" in mind. One of the "live" pleasures of the show was the extremely tall, fine, Kentia palm which follows the tallest line of the big Wangenheim home so gracefully.

ADA PERRY

## *Speakers' Platform*

### JANUARY

Dr. Joshua L. Bailey was the speaker at the January meeting of the Floral Association. With winter sweet peas prominent in the garden consciousness of members, he reached back into the past to remind them that experiments in the hybridization of sweet peas were the foundation of the modern science of genetics.

The performer of these experiments, Gregor Mendel, was revisualized by Dr. Bailey for his audience as he spoke of the abbot's life and work. Besides abbot of the monastery at Brunn, Mendel also served as president of the bank, and director of the weather bureau. Mendel's interest in botany led to his work with sweet pea hybridization; and the far reaching effect of this upon the impressive science of genetics was earnestly illustrated by Dr. Bailey with colored diagrams and a chemical demonstration.

### APRIL

The guest speaker at the April meeting of the Floral Association brought with him excellent kodochromes and a most pleasing personality. The fact that Dr. John Poindexter of Carlsbad also brought with him the reminder of a father distinguished for his work with epiphyllums was an added attraction to those who knew of the elder Poindexter.

A point he stressed in cactus gardening was the use of carpets of flowers with large specimens and backed up

his point with several beautiful desert shots showing owl's clover and poppies tinting the foreground of a wild group of large cactus.

Unusual interest was displayed in the one little cactus which dared to cross the southern Atlantic and become a native of Africa, the only cactus to make the jump to another continent from North and South America. This little cactus, explained Dr. Poindexter, has very sticky seeds and the theory is that they clung to the feathers of migrating birds. He informed inquirers that it is a ripsalis which grows in leaf mold collected in in the branches of trees. The blossoms are plain light yellow but then, explorers aren't noted for their exotic appearance, are they?

### MARCH

The naturalist director of the San Diego Museum spoke on the wild flowers in the County at the March meeting. He showed some beautiful colored pictures which he had taken of them. His success in color photography was demonstrated by the beautiful shots of the ocotilla. There were mountain sunrises and sunsets to be enjoyed, too.

Mr. Huey said we have 1300 different kinds of wild flowers and his audience was sorry he didn't have pictures of all of them.

The meeting was presided over by W. Allen Perry, our park superintendent who also serves on the Association board of directors. Mrs. Mary A. Greer was ill at the time and not able to act in her capacity as president.

Regrets were expressed and hopes of quick recovery. Another occasion for regret was Alfred C. Hottes' announcement that he must resign as editor of the California Garden, due to pressure of teaching commitments. He gave an informative resume of the magazine and its circulation.

*April 15, 1947*

Daughter of Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president of the Floral Association, and sister of Miss Mary Greer, secretary. Outstanding for her sustained interest in horticulture and floral arrangement. A member of the Association for many years. A sparkling personality greatly to be missed by all.



# What Do You Plant in the Shade

By ADA PERRY

It was a bit disconcerting to be asked suddenly after five years, "What can you plant in the shade? We've got a shady spot and not a thing in it."

Not since leaving the air and the newspaper column had I been pinged with that old favorite in the way of garden queries. But it was all right, and kind of nice, too, after I got to rummaging through files and starting wheels to running again. The questioner was a sorority sister in San Diego's Alpha Chapter of Phi Epsilon Phi. She has a husband, two children and a house and garden. I don't know if she uses that tooth paste or not but she has a lovely smile and she's right on the ball every minute, typical of young matrons these days. I'd "asked for" the question at sorority meeting by announcing my "engagement" as editor of the California Garden and passing stick candy!

So, what do you plant in the shade?

Well, get the ground ready in the shady place, first. If it has been a neglected spot, ten to one the ground will be packed hard and need airing and turning over. You can dig old manure and bone meal and leaf mold into it. So many shady plants like leaf mold, and that's natural isn't it? The trouble with shady spots around homes is that the buildings created them artificially. In the wild, trees and bushes create and shed their leaves to the soil below. The plants that come to live beneath them are the ones that thrive on leaf mold and coolness.

## Holiday Plants

One of the simplest sources of plants for the shady side are the gift plants that come with Holiday greetings. Hydrangeas, azaleas, fuchsias, camellias and begonias all come into the home with holiday wrappings and cards. Set them out in that shady spot. Even fancy cyclamen and caladiums have been planted when the gift occasion is past, and been found to last longer than in the house.

You do draw the line once in a while, as in the case of poinsettias. A gift poinsettia should be given more sun when it is grown in the yard,

though this isn't saying poinsettias won't accept some shade. You can see all over town that they do.

If one is so generous as to present you with a lovely orange-blooming clivia, you have another fine plant for the shade, one that will last for years and years.

## Begonias and Ferns

When concentrating on that shady spot, go into the subject of begonias and ferns a little deeper. There's more than one kind of each, you know, and a specialist in these plants will be pleased to show you at least a half dozen kinds of each you never even noticed before. That's a fact.

We go along for years thinking begonias, ferns—yes I know they'll grow in the shade but it seems to me I want something different. Well, you have borders, fillers and backgrounds in just these plants, and it will take just a little investigation to collect a bed of them that will cause your neighbors to regard you with awe and respect.

I never will forget the look on a fern dealer's face when I started exclaiming over the numbers of different kinds of ferns, all shapes and sizes, that were growing right there in front of me in a lath house. She said, kind of spunkily, that they all did well here, and in outside beds, too, and that people who knew about them really had something when they planted them.

It was illuminating, though a trifle disconcerting and I took refuge behind the excuse that I don't care much for ferns. But between you and me, they did look awfully interesting, especially the ones that didn't resemble brake at all.

## Annuals and Perennials

Of course you know that you can fill a shady corner in winter in season with cinerarias, forgetmenots and lobelia. They are annuals and don't last very long but they reseed. No guarantee goes with the forgetmenots. Seems to me they can forget like everything here, sometimes.

A perennial fan can go in for foxglove, columbine and violets which should all be started, now, by the way

from plants, and with hopes that they will bloom next spring.

The fairy primrose, or primula malacoides, will produce pink and white mists of bloom in spring in a place it likes and reseed. Then there's coral bells, proper name heuchera, (you cough it to pronounce), a most beautiful pink thing known as anemone Japonica and not in the least resembling our rainbow anemones from the bulbs like large raisins.

This anemone J. has flowers something on the order of small pink cosmos in sprays only far more elegant. Then there's the lavender flowering thalictrum with foliage like columbine, and the tall rehmannia with pink, foxglove-like flowers. I'll apologize for these last two names but I've never heard common ones.

For a really tough shady spot, try the elephant's ear caladium, the classic acanthus, and wandering Jew, and vinca or periwinkle. If these won't grow, we'll have to think of something else, I don't know what.

## Shrubs and Vines

There are three very pretty little shrubs for shade, the beloperone or shrimp plant, the chorizema with little holly leaves and little orange and scarlet pansy-blooms, and the nandina which will have red foliage and red berries.

Two plain bread-and-butter shade shrubs are the pittosporum tobira and the raphiolepis. The pittosporum T. is one of those shiny leaved plants so common here with orange scented flowers. It's low growing and it's flowers are in the flat clusters. Raphiolepis has severe dark green leaves and almost black berries. But its white flowers give one a feeling as for hawthorne.

There are some really choice vines for shade, though if the spot has poor soil seems to me you'd better choose ivy. If there are possibilities, however, consider that sky flower, the thunbergia with the big blue, white throated blooms. Mm-mm! A golden blooming vine of the special kind is the hibbertia or guinea-vine. I'm sure this name refers to the golden guineas of the pirates' days.

Your Carolina jessamine with golden blooms is recommended for shade. The name is gelsemium sempervirens if you want to be sure of getting the right one. And of course that couldn't be anything else.



Another twister is the star jasmine, flowers frosty white, curled and fragrant. Show its name to dealers only: *trachelospermum jasminoides*. They are more of less injured to things like that.

### *Roland Hoyt Suggests*

In this search for plants for shade, I of course asked Roland S. Hoyt, landscape architect, past editor of the California Garden, author of Planting Lists for Southern California and Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions.

He had time to give us some information on a flower most of us know and love from childhood,—bleeding hearts.

"When confronted by deep to medium shade in loamy, fairly good soils, look for *dicentras*. The war saw to it that stock is difficult to find, but the old bleeding heart, *dicentra spectabilis*, may be come upon if one is persistent.

"This flowers from late winter on into spring, when the plant goes into a long dormancy. It is too well known to describe.

"Two summer flowering types are showing promise in the sub-tropics and if not found here, can be obtained through catalogues of eastern, or better, nurseries of the Pacific northwest. *Dicentra ixernia*, the fringed bleeding heart, is a lower plant than the common kind, with the typical soft, succulent, finely cut leaves that are so appropriate for the woodland. The rosy-pink drooping hearts will be in evidence all summer and if the foliage fails to green up satisfactorily, give it a little acidate, or acid, fertilizer. Mulch it well with leaf mold. This will thrive in nearly full sun along the coast.

"*Dicentra farmora* is a rampant, spreading plant with an excellent foliage mass of silvery or greyish aspect in a highly organic soil. The white variety form, Sweetheart, has been a shy bloomer here.

"These plants fit in with the shading ferns and want a high humus content of the soil. They form strong crowns that are long-lived under proper conditions. In the south, where a garden bed has nearly continuous use, they will handle the resultant moisture situation in dormancy better than most of the more common South Africans of like growth character."

## *The Library*

### *A Book*

There are more tenders of potted plants in San Diego than one would think unless at some time he or she had been placed in a spot where information could be sought on spoiled darlings not allowed out in the garden, or for which there is no garden space, or even plants which are quite rightly preferred to some other items of interior decoration.

All this is by way of saying that there is a book out apparently capable of answering at least one million questions about potted plants. It is *The Picture Primer of Indoor Gardening* by Margaret O. Goldsmith. Many of us are bound never to have heard of her before which makes her extremely obliging disposition all the more remarkable.

The book is as colorful as a work on interior decorating, which indeed it is, and infinitely more interesting to flower lovers. The illustrations are by a Harrie Wood and you may thank him or her for the names of many mysterious house plant favorites because their likenesses are unmistakable. You may also give thanks for graphic illustrations on the kinds of soil mixtures to use, what to do when the plant is ailing (washing off a buggy ivy without dumping it, for instance!), and how to bring about offspring from your favorites.

There are groups of plants for sunny windows, shady windows, winter, summer, spring and fall, and herbs for the kitchen. There are table gardens, terrariums, and dish gardens and scientific data on drainage, temperatures—the construction of containers of all sorts so they'll get along with floors—and window gardens, which were nearly left out in this review.

Houghton Mifflin Company Company, Boston, publish the book and it is \$2.00 and it's a wonder the author didn't ask \$10.00.

### *A Song*

Some very nice garden songs have been written and lots of no-account ones, of course, as on every song subject. Where *A Garden Grows*, it must be confessed, was approached gingerly for the purpose of review, even though the title was pleasing. The words, when scanned sceptically,

were pleasing. Possibly a hunt-and-peck try-out on the piano would not be disagreeable, either?

It wasn't, though the test was certainly of the grueling order. One finger, you know. Where *A Garden Grows* is dedicated to garden clubs everywhere and should be most suitable for programs. Irving Farrington, secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, composed the music and the words are by Oliver Nichol of Indiana, Pennsylvania.

## *Memory Garden*

Many great names in San Diego gardening belong to ones known and loved by us who have gone on. But they left us much in the way of beautiful plants, memories, and knowledge. Let us now follow the bluebird into the land of memory for a bit. This was written for the California Garden of July, 1927, by Miss Kate O. Sessions, nationally known woman horticulturist, and San Diego's own "K. O. S."

*JACARANDA*. This is the large, spreading, blue flowering tree that has been blooming about the city since the latter part of June and is well worthy of more extensive planting.

This tree is a native of Brazil and its name is also Brazilian. It ranks among the hundred best flowering trees for subtropical regions. Its flowers are tubular and are arranged in large sprays and it belongs to the *Bignonia* family. Our two fine vines, *Bignonia cherere* and *venusta* are its cousins.

All garden lovers are partial to blue flowers, and this is for us the grandest of such flowering plants. The foliage is large and like a beautiful fern leaf. Its habit is to drop its leaves the latter part of April or early May and send out its sprays of flowering buds, and as the flowers begin to develop and show color, the new foliage is out in all its fern-like beauty which adds much to its glory.

The tree needs staking and judicious pruning to develop a good straight trunk for the time when its top becomes large and spreading with age. Its location in the home garden is an important and serious question. One should anticipate its future development and so enjoy and preserve it when full grown.

## WATCH YOUR MUMS NOW

(Continued from Page 3)

possible. Removing must be done faithfully two or three times a week when the side laterals start growing.

At this time also, there will be new shoots sprouting from the ground around the main stem. These are called stools and must be cut off carefully with a knife in order not to injure the plant or its roots. These stools, if allowed to grow, deprive the plant of a great deal of nourishment and do not amount to anything.

Now the buds will start to grow at the tips of the selected shoots. The first to come are buds surrounded by leaves, called "crown buds." The later ones are the "terminal buds" and are surrounded by other small buds. These are the buds you should keep for your blooms, pinching the others off.

When the center bud of a terminal has developed to the size of a small pea, carefully pinch away all the little buds surrounding it. You thus leave one bud at the tip of each stem. As a rule the best time to accomplish this is around the middle of August. I generally reserve two terminal buds on each stem until they are about the size of a large pea. Then I pinch out one, choosing the best one to come to bloom. Sometimes a bird or bug destroys a bud, so if two are left you still have one to fall back on. A whole chapter could be written on the subject of disbudding, but for the beginner it only tends to confuse instead of help.

### *Staking*

This is also a very important step, for if your plants are not properly staked, the weight of a bloom, a windy day or a good soaking will cause a stem to bend or even break. It is, therefore, a good rule to stake each bloom bearing stem. The stakes can be any material from bamboo the thickness of a pencil to wooden stakes 3/8 to 1/2 inches square. But no matter what is used for staking, be sure that the ends to be driven into the ground have a good tapering point to avoid breaking the roots of the plants.

A stake should be long enough so it may be driven firmly into the ground and come within 1 and 1/2 or

2 inches of the flower when it opens. Tie a stem to a stake three places through its length to give both stem and bloom the proper support.

These directions for staking apply to the large flowering and feathery and spidery types only.

The other types should be staked in such a way that they will grow fairly upright, and not be top heavy when in full bloom.

### *Pests*

Mums are not subject to many pests. The main ones are cutworms when the plants are young, inch worms and aphids. Atmospheric pests are rust, mildew and brown leaf.

The insect pests are easily controlled by spraying and dusting with the proper insecticides on the market, following the directions on the labels. Mildew, rust and brown leaf can be avoided to a large extent by the proper watering methods described earlier.

Editor's note: Mr. Winkler has admired and grown chrysanthemums for "about 40 years." He began in Brooklyn and progressed west to 44th Street in San Diego.

## GARDEN PEST CONTROL

(Continued from Page 3)

use whenever thrips are a problem on ornamental plants with the exception of the camellia. Numerous cases of severe foliage injury and even death of the entire plant have been reported where DDT was used on camellias.

### *The Common Mildew*

Plant diseases are many. However, the most common is probably mildew. Mildew can best be handled by dusting with sulfur as a preventative rather than as a control. Mid-morning is usually an ideal time for dusting, as the leaves of the plants are dry and the wind usually has not started to blow. Use a good hand duster and blow a small cloud of dust about the plant or bush. For those who do not have dusting equipment, wettable sulfur may be applied as a spray. Plants affected by virus diseases should be removed from the garden, as these diseases may be spread from diseased to healthy plants by insect vectors. In some cases, disease-resistant varieties have been developed and these should be obtained whenever possible.

### *Two Weeks for Nematode*

Two new soil fumigants for the

control of nematode and wireworms were developed during the war, one known as ethylene dibromide and the other as D-D (dichloro propane and dichloro propene). These two materials are quite effective in wireworm and nematode control. They are recommended for use in areas free of plant growth. The material should be applied at intervals of 12 inches in holes 6 to 8 inches deep. Apply about 4 c.c. or 1 teaspoonful per hole. A plunger-type oil can may be used for this purpose or some insecticide dealers have special equipment for applying this material that may be rented for a nominal sum.

Before using this material prepare the soil as for planting, removing all trash. Sufficient soil moisture should be present as would ordinarily be required for plant growth. Do not plant for ten days to two weeks after fumigation. These materials are poisonous gases and care should be taken to avoid breathing the vapor. In case material is spilled on clothes, they should be removed immediately and washed before worn again; if spilled on shoes, remove at once and air for 48 hours. In case of body contact, wash at once with soap and water.

Following the application of any insecticide or fungicide, a careful check should always be made to determine the results and judge the necessity for further control.

## *Speakers' Dates*

Floral Association meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, at present in the Theosophical Society building at Fourth and Olive. You are welcome to attend.

### *July*

Robert C. Calvin, landscape designer, will talk on landscape design when day lilies, azaleas, and fuchsias are to be featured.

### *August*

Frederick G. Jackson will discuss dahlias on which he is an expert. Large dahlias are his particular hobby.

### *September*

Dr. Oscar L. Gabriel of Encinitas will talk about his work of producing saucer-sized carnations and will bring some of the flowers to show their colorings. He will give information about their culture.

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